



ABCs OF SHOWBiz

So your child has an artistic talent you want to develop? He/she may have the makings of an actor extraordinary or a singer par excellence, but if not properly trained for the competitive world, she will just remain a face in the crowd. In perhaps the first endeavour of its kind in India, SilverJay Productions has an initiative titled Show Biz Business which nurtures young artists into tubtubing what is not second nature to them yet; becoming entrepreneurs.

"Our programme will use drama, dance and music imaginatively to build confidence in young performers, thereby allowing them to learn the basics of the business through games and activities," explains Jessica Nicholas, co-creative director of SilverJay productions, a co-venture with Kangaroo Kids, creative director of SilverJay productions, a co-venture with Kangaroo Kids. The enterprise education starts off with theatre, since Jessica's Australian production group has expertise in stage production and personal development. The participants are also expected to put up an independently devised show as the outcome of the programme.

Show Biz Business begins on April 21 and will be held at Kangaroo kids centre, Bandra. For more information, call 93239 93958.



Have Camera, Will shoot

Many students use their vacations as the time to express their photographic talents. While some join the Photographers Society of India (PSI), others assist senior photographers as interns to learn more. And then there are those that simply grab their SLRs and start clicking! "I feel there's no substitute to going out there and clicking, click to your heart's content. Photography magazines are very informative, and carry sections even for beginners. Not to forget, with the recent digitalization, processing the pictures has become very easy," says student Sameer Raichur who started off with photography in a similar fashion. For those looking out for internships, many photographers like Gautam Rajadhyaksha, Raghu Rai and Farrokh Chothia take assistants, albeit a lot depends on your personal rapport with the photographer and his willingness to accept you as an intern.

Contact the Photographic Society of India at 22664296 or log on to www.photographic.society-ofindia.org



Know thy manners

Vacations may not be a had time to define your personality and hone your etiquette skills. They will not only make you feel much more confident when interacting with others but also leave a positive first impression. Not to forget, etiquette knowledge always keeps you in good stead in the long run. Savio Dillva's classes in Mumbai offer courses in personal grooming that includes twin courses in Public Speaking and Personality Development. Students can choose either of these or even go for grooming that involves public speaking and personality development would be charged a fee of Rs 4000.

Batches are held in Andheri and Bandra. Contact: 26708167



Break the language Barrier

Being multi-lingual has many benefits, understanding a foreign culture is one of them. Then again, in case you plan to pursue higher studies in Germany or Japan, knowledge of their respective languages is imperative. Many teachers impart personal tutorials for interested students. The British Institute at Fort offers courses in many foreign languages. "We offer courses in French, Japanese, German, Russian, Spanish, Arabic and Italian. And the courses will be on all through summer, especially for students. Nowadays, there's a huge demand of Chinese language among students," the British Institute informs.

A 30-hour course spread across 15 sessions costs Rs 3500 and tutorials in Chinese costs Rs 4500. Contact: 2287 0755, 56, 57; Email: bicustom1.vol.net.in



Live the rough life

If you ever thought of sending your kids to the armed forces to develop a dash of personality and life skills there are easier options available. Brigadier Sushil Bhasin, an early retiree, has established Empower camps recently which are gaining ground with many schools and corporate houses. "I had having a passion for sharing the traits and skills which enriched my career in the forces," the ex army man offers. "Being the chairman of an army school, I realised how crucial it is for all of grown-ups to invest in kids. And with children getting smarter and tech-savvy, it is essential that they learn traits such as assertiveness and self-empowerment to become better human beings," he adds.

Empower's kids camps are refreshingly different. Explains their business manager Madhu Modese, "We expose our kids to everything unconventional—from their cutting rabbits to their sports. This time, we'll have them staying in a village house, playing gilli danda and riding bullock carts."

Empower is holding camps once each month this summer, starting March 24. For more, contact Madhu on 99673 55068 or log on to www.empower-camp.com



'Coz reading too is a skill

Have you rued the fact that despite being an eager reader and the mini-library at home, your child is never seen digging into a book? Well, you may blame the PS2 but it could also be that your kid finds reading cumbersome. It won't take long to improve this though, with workshops like Saptakram around.

Articulates one of the governors of the life-skills centre, Reva Mehta "The world of books can do a world of good to a child who struggles with the rhythm and also that reading can feel forced to a child who struggles with the rhythm and pace of books; and they assume it's just lack of interest." Like the past few successful editions, Saptakram has organised a reading skills workshop not only for children, but another one for parents too, to deal with their child's reading skills. Ms Mehta adds, "In this age of passive entertainment, it is crucial for parents and kids to get actively involved in reading since it can't be substituted."

This workshop, we thought, deserves to be called the most important of all, since books also develop character, change perceptions, inspire learning new languages and save you the junk of sending your child to camps for the above!

Saptakram's workshops are being held through April and May, at Naranda Public School, Mulund. Call 2512 9670 for registrations and details of other workshops.

